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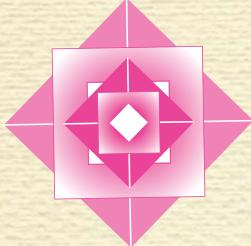
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CREATIVE MACHINE Embroidery

VOLUME 15 • ISSUE 1

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a note from the editor

DEAR READERS,

I'm so proud and excited to announce that this issue marks the 15th anniversary of *Creative Machine Embroidery* magazine. It does my heart good to know that in this day and age, with glossy printed pages becoming obsolete and more and more content being delivered in video form, we're going strong with the support of people like you.

That's not to say that we aren't offering the very best in video content for you, too! Videos are great learning tools, and we like to think of them as extensions of the magazine—to bring you more than what we can fit on the printed page.

As you go through the in-the-hoop project on page 18, you'll find a free video showing the step-by-steps with the author, Lisa Archer, guiding you to project completion. Who better to give you the tips and tricks you need to know while you sew than the project creator and digitizer herself? Plus, we'll share a new video with each issue to elevate you to in-the-hoop embroidery expert status.

If you need a refresher course, or are teaching someone else the wonderful world of machine embroidery, Lisa also hosts two additional videos, available at shopsewitall.com. With "Machine Embroidery for the Absolute Beginner" and "Machine Embroidery Basics," you'll have an arsenal of information to refer to over and over again. Which stabilizer do I use for this fabric? Which thread is best for this design? If you can't find the answer in a back issue of *CME*, look to these videos and learn from a pro.

To commemorate our 15th year of publication, we're bringing you a special mystery project, with the first set of instructions revealed on page 52. Gather your supplies and create the elements for step one, and then stay tuned for more as the year progresses. Each installment comes with a free design, too! What's the catch? You have to register for the Mystery Sew-Along at cmemag.com/blogs/cme. It's the only way to be eligible for the PRIZE. One lucky winner from all participants will receive \$15,000 worth of sewing and embroidery products! Learn more on page 52.

Thank you so much for being a part of *Creative Machine Embroidery* and keeping us in business for these past 15 years. Here's to at least 15 more!

Cheers!

Ellen

Ellen March

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coming attractions

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with our new exclusive *CME* Shamrocks design collection, featured on lovely linens. Make easy in-the-hoop egg holders for Easter brunch. Learn how to create fringe using your embroidery machine. All this and more is in the March/April 2016 issue, on newsstands Feb. 16, 2016.

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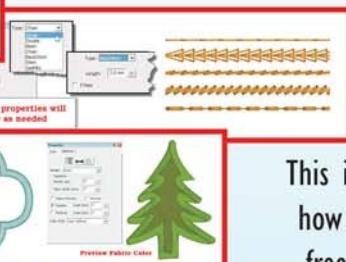


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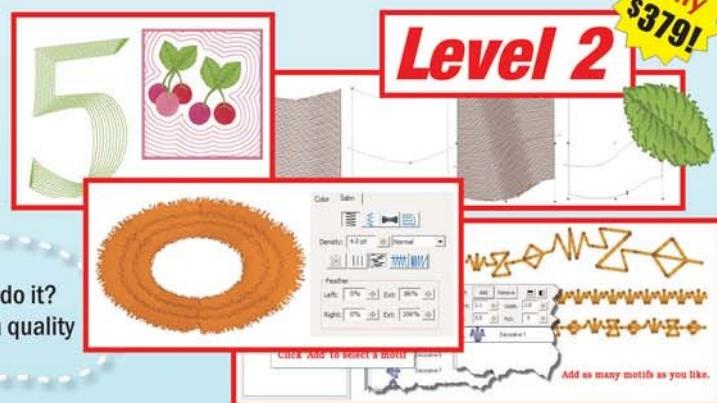
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contributors

lisa archer



(“In the Hoop: Sleep Mask”—page 18) is the owner and creative director of Pickle Pie Designs. She loves the challenge of creating in-the-hoop designs that reflect her personal style.

Home Base: Holly Springs, NC

Visit: picklepiedesigns.com

pamela cox



(“Q&A with Pamela Cox”—page 48, “15 Pointers for Flawless Stitchouts”—page 36) received a fashion design degree from The Boston School of Design with an emphasis on patternmaking. Purchasing her first embroidery machine in ‘07 added a new dimension to her education.

Home Base: Dublin, NH



jessica giardino



(“Desert Rose Purse”—page 26)

Hailing from a long line of make-do-and-menders, Jessica Giardino learned to sew at a young age. As luck would have it, she joined the editorial team at *Creative Machine Embroidery* magazine and discovered the joy of embroidery. One move to Oregon later, she’s still embroidering, sewing and blogging.

Visit: henonthetown.com



jennifer paganelli & carla crim



(“Shellie Clutch”—page 45) are the dynamic duo behind Sis Boom Pattern Company. Jennifer is a well-known fabric designer for FreeSpirit fabrics,

and Carla is the blogger also known as The Scientific Seamstress.

Visit: sisboom.com, scientificseamstress.blogspot.com

stacy schlyer



(“Collar Scheme”—page 22) is a self-taught seamstress and self-proclaimed fabric junkie whose goal is to reach SABLE (Stash Accumulation Beyond Life Expectancy). She lives in

Kansas with her family and blogs about her sewing adventures daily.

Home Base: Wichita, KS

Visit: stacysews.com

melissa mora



(“Boho Bands”—page 42) spent 12 years in the classroom as an award-winning high school theatre teacher before leaving to become the full time designer/owner of Blank Slate

Patterns, and now claims the entire internet as her classroom. She writes the popular sewing blog Melly Sews. In addition to her own courses and her YouTube Channel, Melissa teaches through her PDF sewing patterns, her paper sewing patterns carried in Joann stores nationwide, BurdaStyle and more. A native Texan, Melissa lives in Austin with her husband and two boys.

katrina walker



(“Noveau Oval Pendant”—page 32) specializes in working with silk and wool. She enjoys designing projects for home sewists and playing with her flock of sheep.

Home Base: Spokane, WA
Visit: katrinawalker.com

Learn More

about the experts and designers featured in this issue at cmemag.com.



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tips & tricks



HANDY TIP

When embroidering on hand towels, place the embroidery designs 2" to 3" below the towel center instead of placing them slightly above the lower edge. This way, hands are not drying themselves on top of the design.

Joan D., email



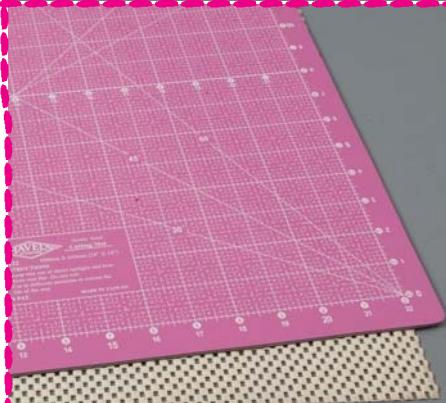
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for techniques and
tricks to further
your embroidery.

CLIP TRICK

When embroidering on ready-made garments, roll the excess fabric outside of the hoop and secure it with binder clips. This prevents catching the garment in the embroidery area.

Doris L., email



CUT A RUG

Utilize non-slip rug pads underneath your cutting mat to prevent it from slipping while cutting.

Corrine R., email

FREEZE PLEASE

Before sewing with metallic thread, put the thread in the freezer for a couple of hours to prevent it from breaking.

Iris F., Facebook



INSIDER KNOWLEDGE

In order to identify your stabilizer collection, remove each label and stick it to the inside of the cardboard roll the stabilizer comes on. If you ever have trouble identifying the stabilizer type, simply pull out and read the label.

Evelyn A., email

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2. True to the boho spirit, the

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2



3. Go bold with the **CME Boho**

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3

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and the entire Boho
Rose design collection
at shopsewitall.com.

4



4. Great on denim, a retro vest or embellished home décor, incorporate a vintage vibe with the **Jacobeann Color Work florals** from Bunnycup Embroidery. (**\$4/design, \$20/collection, bunnycup.com**)

5. Never journey alone. **The Flower Power Pals** from Embroidery Library make a spirited statement on a jacket sleeve, journal cover or cross-body bag embellishment. (**\$5.99/design, \$9.97/collection, emblibrary.com**)

6. Stitching leather is a breeze if you have the right needle. Stay stocked and ready for any task with a multi-pack of **leather sewing needles** in a variety of sizes. (**\$4.99, shopsewitall.com**)

7. The **Designer EPIC** sewing and embroidery machine combines the best of technology and sewing, created with today's sewist in mind. The machine features an interactive tablet-like screen, a cloud-based storage system, an app that helps you keep tabs on your embroidery status and many more impressive intuitive settings and features. (**\$14,999, husqvarnaviking.com.**)

5



6



7

must haves

the latest & greatest tools & designs



8

8. Create a damask-inspired look on wearables or home dec items with the romantic yet understated **Antique Florals** by RNK. (\$69.99/collection, RNKdistributing.com)

9. If you love a big, bold tote, grab the **Poolside Tote pattern**. With plenty of pockets and tabs to keep your items stored and handy, this bag is a great canvas for machine embroidery. (\$9, noodle-head.com)

10. Wear your heart on your sleeve (or your sewing project bag!) this Valentine's Day with the **I Heart Sewing embroidery design**. (\$5.99, shopsewitall.com)

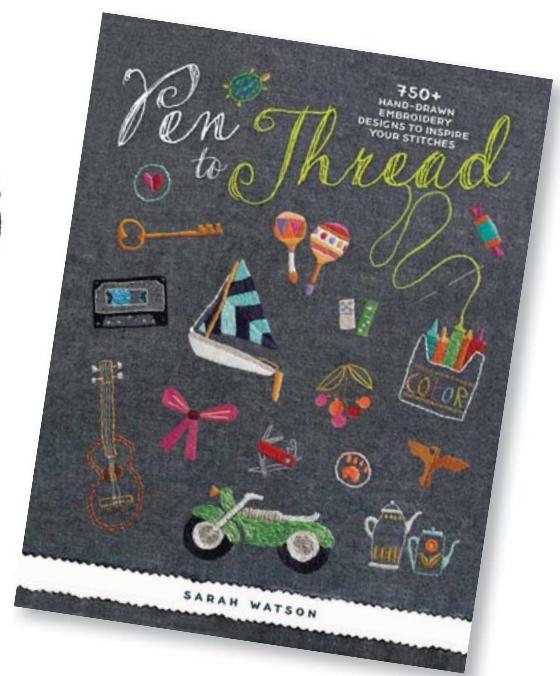
11. In **Pen to Thread**, illustrator and fabric designer Sarah Watson presents more than 750 designs to embroider by hand. A vintage fridge, artful artichokes and garden gnomes (and flamingos) round out this charming collection, a tremendous resource for your stitching library. (\$26.99, interweavestore.com)



9



10



11



12



13

14



12. Give your bobbinwork impact and shine with a selection of **Quilt Highlights rayon/metallic braid threads**. Available in 15 shades, this high-quality thread is perfect for couching, embellishments and adding texture, depth and plenty of sparkle. **(\$12.95, ylicorp.com)**

13. Go global with the intricate, open **Mendhika Corner Flourish** from Urban Threads. Perfect alone or mirrored as a set of four, this design would look equally at home along a skirt hem corner, as a floor pillow accent or on a denim jacket. **(\$3–\$7/design, urbanthreads.com)**

14. Make a statement with the **Necklace Pendant** embroidery designs from Katrina Walker. These designs pair perfectly with a bit of beaded fringe. **(\$4.99/design, \$12.99–\$22.99/kit, shopsewitall.com)**



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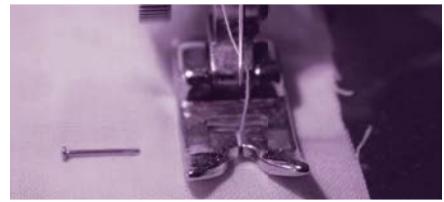
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15 TOP TIPS: Stabilizer

Proper stabilizing is critical to a successful result. There are four basic stabilizer types, and each should be chosen based on the fabric type and weight. Read on to learn more about water-soluble, heat-removable, cut-away and tear-away stabilizers. Plus learn a variety of helpful stabilizer tricks.

1 Prevent embroidery stitches from sinking into the fabric pile, such as that on corduroy, knit and other napped fabrics, by using a topper. Toppers can help achieve a crisper, cleaner stitch.

2 Never, under any circumstances, iron water-soluble stabilizer. The heat causes it to shrink and stiffen, making it nearly impossible to remove.

3 To determine if water-soluble stabilizer is completely removed from a design, gently rub the embroidery area between two fingers. If they're clean and don't stick together, then the stabilizer has been removed. If not, refill

a tub with fresh water and repeat the submerging and rinsing steps.

4 When smocking, use water-soluble adhesive stabilizer to secure the pleats. Embroider the chosen design over the pleats. Wash away the stabilizer completely, leaving no residue. When embroidering knit fabrics, combine water-soluble adhesive stabilizer with lightweight cut-away stabilizer. Wash away the water-soluble stabilizer after the embroidery is complete, leaving the cut-away stabilizer behind to support the stitches.

5 Dipping completed embroidered pieces in water is often awkward, and spraying to remove water-soluble stabilizer is messy. Use a damp cotton swab around the design instead. Or fill an empty roll-on deodorant container with water and use it to remove water-soluble stabilizer **(A)**.



celebrating 15 YEARS!

We're celebrating our 15th anniversary all year by going back to basics... training, that is. Join us each issue for 15 top tips for successful machine embroidery.

6 When embroidering towels, use a heat-removable topper, which is easily removed using a cool iron. Water-soluble toppers often allow fabric loops to appear in and around the design after subsequent washings. Heat-removable remains beneath the design, providing a permanent barrier between the towel and embroidery.

7 Keep a stash of both cut-away and tear-away stabilizers on hand. Tear-away stabilizer is often used in combination with cut-away to ensure enough stabilization. After hooping the fabric with a cut-away variety, float a tear-away type under the hoop while it's on the machine.

8 Most woven fabrics are already sturdy, therefore a tear-away stabilizer is suitable. For a dense design on woven fabric, use a heavier weight fabric-type stabilizer and fuse it onto the fabric before embroidery.

9 Use several layers of lightweight tear-away stabilizer when stitching delicate designs. After the design is complete, gently tear away the layers one at a time to avoid disturbing delicate stitches.

10 Most knit fabrics require extra support during and after the embroidery process, so use a cut-away stabilizer. For a lightweight design on a knit fabric, consider a mesh cut-away variety. For a denser design, use a mediumweight cut-away type. The heavier

the fabric, the heavier weight stabilizer is required. However, never use a stabilizer that's a heavier weight than the fabric.

11 Choose a cut-away stabilizer when embroidering denim jeans. The design needs extra support to withstand multiple washings and repeated wear. To perfectly align jean seams after embroidery, adhere double-sided water-soluble stabilizer to each seam allowance along the right side. The stabilizer secures the seams, making it easy to stitch along the original stitching line, and then completely rinses away.

12 To cover scratchy embroidery, apply fusible mesh stabilizer to the embroidery wrong side once the embroidery is complete.

13 Cut fusible adhesive stabilizer scraps into 1"-wide strips. Use the strips as basting tape to secure fabric layers when stitching machine embroidered appliqués.

14 After completing an embroidery project, cut away as much of the stabilizer as possible and keep it. Store scraps by size; use small scraps when embroidering names, initials and decorative stitches, and medium scraps for logos and large monograms.

15 Stabilizer dulls sharp scissors quickly, so designate one pair for only stabilizer. 

BONUS PROJECTS

Keep your supplies neat and tidy with these free organizer projects.

Stabilizer Organizer

by Katrina Walker

Organize stabilizer rolls using fabric from your stash. Use a hanger to hang the organizer in a closet or over the back of your sewing room door.



Stabilizer Wiser

by Sue Hausmann

Create an embellished organizer using cut coordinating "Spooly" designs by Sulky of America.

Sew it All TV, episode 509:
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Visit cmemag.com/freebies for free instructions to make these projects, available until Feb. 29, 2016.

Find all your stabilizer needs at shopsewitall.com.



in the hoop

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SLEEP MASK

by Lisa Archer

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cmemag.com/freebies
until Feb. 29, 2016.

THIS SLEEP MASK is made with soft and luscious plush fabric. When working with lofty fabrics, it's important to use a water-soluble stabilizer over the embroidery to prevent stitches from sinking below the fabric nap. Using a stabilizer on any fabric with nap or texture helps create the best possible embroidery results, giving the stitches a boost so they sit high and pretty. Simple white elastic can be used for the sleep mask, but 5/8"-wide foldover elastic is available in several pretty colors and fun prints to give this mask the perfect finishing touch. For a different spin and feel, try satin, cotton or flannel.

MATERIALS

- Two 5"x8" rectangles of fleece fabric (See "Sources.")
- 5"x8" rectangle of cotton batting
- 12" length of 5/8"-wide foldover elastic
- Stabilizer: tear-away & water-soluble
- 5x7 or larger hoop

PREPARE

- Download the sleep mask design from cmemag.com/freebies.
- Hoop a piece of tear-away stabilizer.

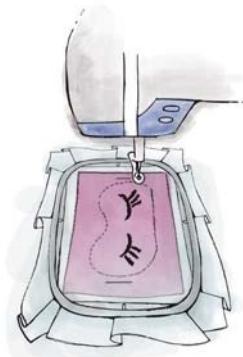
EMBROIDER

- Stitch step one to create a placement line directly on the stabilizer (**A**).
- Place the batting over the placement line. Place one piece of fleece fabric right side up over the batting. Tape in place. Stitch the second step to tack down the fabric.

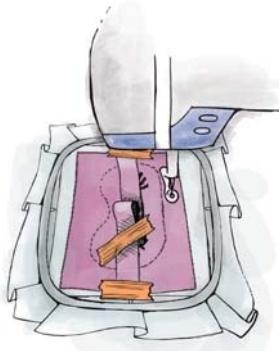
- Place a piece of water-soluble stabilizer over the project and tape in place along the edges. Stitch step three to create the eyelashes (**B**).
- Tear off the excess water-soluble stabilizer. Stitch the fourth step to create placement lines for the elastic (**C**).
- Place one end of the elastic right side down over the left placement line, with 1" of the raw edge facing out. Tape in place. Repeat with the opposite elastic end, taping it over the right placement line. Fold the excess elastic and tape it to the center of the project, making sure it's well inside the stitch lines (**D**).
- Place the final piece of fabric right side down over the project, covering all the stitches. The fabric nap should face the project lower edge. Tape in place. Stitch step five to secure the fabrics (**E**).

Tip When cutting, keep the direction of the nap facing down.

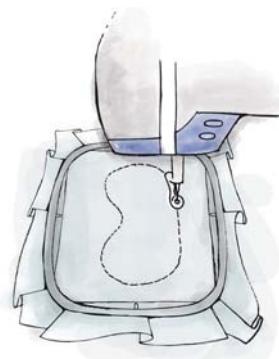
C



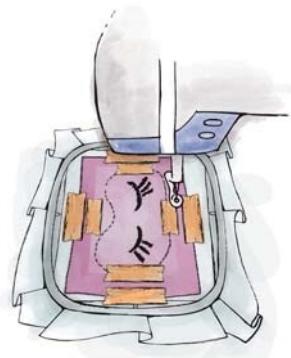
D



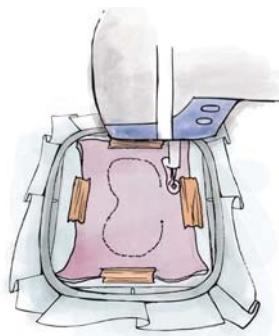
A



B



E



- Remove the project from the hoop. Tear away the excess stabilizer.
- Using pinking shears, trim around the project, leaving a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance. If pinking shears aren't available, use standard sewing scissors and clip

notches around the curves of the seam.

- Turn the sleep mask right side out.
- Topstitch the sleep mask to close the opening or whipstitch by hand. 

DESIGN

Sleep Mask: Download the ITH Sleep Mask free from cmemag.com/freebies until Feb. 29, 2016. Purchase the design at shopsewitall.com after the expiration date.

SOURCE

Shannon Fabrics carries Cuddle fabric: shannonfabrics.com

WATCH & LEARN!

Watch as Lisa walks you through six exclusive in-the-hoop projects, including this sleep mask, at cmemag.com/freebies.

Bonus: Find Lisa's beginner machine embroidery videos, *Machine Embroidery for the Absolute Beginner* and *Machine Embroidery Basics*, at shopsewitall.com, brought to you by Sulky of America.



IN-THE-HOOP
SLEEP MASK



MACHINE EMBROIDERY
FOR THE ABSOLUTE BEGINNER



MACHINE EMBROIDERY
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A great companion to these videos, the **MACHINE EMBROIDERY ESSENTIALS** bundle at shopsewitall.com includes everything you need to stock your sewing room for embroidering.



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Collar scheme

BY STACY SCHLYER

Create a faux-layered look with a detachable collar that will add style to any top. Choose a delicate openwork design, such as butterflies, for a chic feminine look.



**Download the free
Collar Scheme pattern**
from cmemag.com/freebies
until Feb. 29, 2016. The pattern
will be available for purchase
at shopsewitall.com after the
expiration date.

MATERIALS

- $\frac{3}{8}$ yard of mediumweight woven cotton fabric
- 10" x 13" rectangle of light-weight fusible interfacing
- Cut-away stabilizer
- Thread: all-purpose & embroidery
- Removable fabric marker
- Hand sewing needle
- Hook & eye
- Butterfly design (approximately 3½" x 3¾")
(See "Designs.")
- Collar pattern

PREPARE

- Download the collar pattern from cmemag.com/freebies until Feb. 29, 2016. Cut out the pattern.
- Trace the collar template onto the woven cotton fabric using a removable fabric marker. Designate as the upper collar.
- Print a placement template for the chosen embroidery design. Draw the horizontal and vertical centerlines on each template.



- Position the upper collar right side up on a flat work surface. Center the design template over the right-collar center front as desired. Mark the design center and horizontal and vertical centerlines at the template perimeter **(A)**.

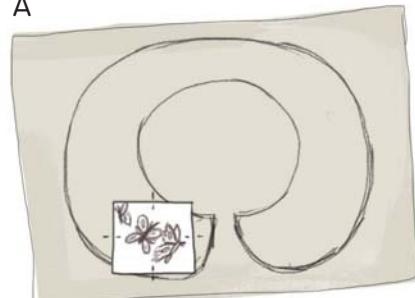
EMBROIDER

- Hoop the upper collar and a piece of cut-away stabilizer, centering the design markings within the hoop.
- Load the butterfly design onto the machine. Thread the machine needle and bobbin with embroidery thread. Embroider the design, changing thread colors as desired.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the fabric from the hoop. Care-

fully remove the excess stabilizer from the design just beyond the stitches.

- Repeat to position and embroider the design, mirroring the design on the left-collar center front.

A

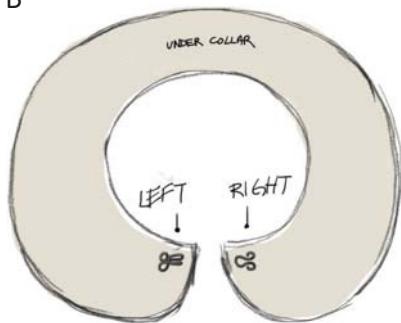




Tip

Secure the embroidered collar closed with a brooch.

B



CONSTRUCT

Use $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

- Cut out the upper collar along the pattern markings.
- From the remaining fabric, cut one collar. Designate as the undercollar. From the fusible interfacing, cut one collar.
- Adhere the interfacing collar to the undercollar wrong side, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- With right sides together, stitch the upper and lower collar perimeter, leaving a 4"-long opening along the collar center-back edge.
- Clip the corners and trim the seam allowance to a scant $\frac{1}{8}$ ". Turn the

collar right side out through the opening. Gently push the corners out if necessary, and then press flat.

- Slipstitch the collar opening closed.
- Position the hook on the undercollar left upper corner; hand stitch. Repeat to stitch the eye on the undercollar right upper corner (B). If desired, omit the hook and eye and secure the collar closed with a brooch. 

DESIGNS

Butterflies: Urban Threads, Flight & Dark Butterflies (UT7739); urbanthreads.com

Floral: Urban Threads, Blackthorn Wedge (UT5725); urbanthreads.com

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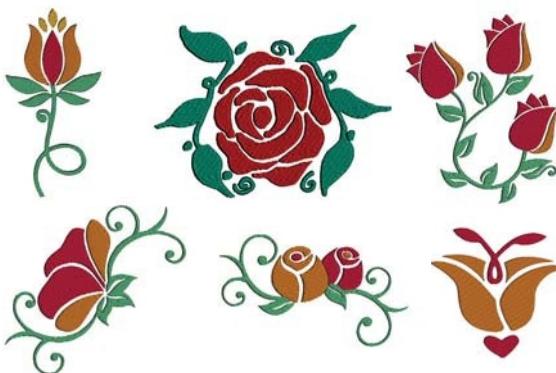
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Desert Rose Purse

BY JESSICA GIARDINO

Inspired by Bohemian style, this satchel is the perfect size to take anywhere. Embroider the designs quickly, and then learn tips for working with vinyl fabric.



Download the free Desert Rose Purse pattern and Boho Center Rose embroidery design from cmemag.com/freebies until Feb. 29, 2016.

Like what you see?
Make this exact bag with
the **Desert Rose Purse Kit**,
which includes everything you
need to make the bag and
the Boho Roses embroidery
design collection, available at
shopsewitatall.com.

MATERIALS

- $\frac{5}{8}$ yard of 55"-wide vinyl fabric
(See "Sources.")
- $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of cotton fabric
(See "Sources.")
- $\frac{2}{3}$ yard of fusible fleece
- Heavyweight cut-away stabilizer (Amount determined by hoop size.)
- 7"x12" rectangle of heavyweight sew-in interfacing
- Two 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " D-rings
(See "Sources.")
- $\frac{9}{16}$ " invisible magnetic closures
- Thread: all-purpose & embroidery
- Leather sewing machine needle
- Removable fabric marker
- Matching permanent marker
- Temporary spray adhesive
- Plastic clips (See "Sources.")
- Rotary cutter and cutting mat
- Rose & tulip embroidery designs (approximately 3"x6" combined; see "Designs.")



PREPARE

- Download and print out the Desert Rose Purse pattern from cmemag.com/freebies. Cut out the pattern pieces.
- Wash, dry and press the cotton fabric. If the vinyl fabric has creases, lay it flat on the floor (or another large surface) and allow it to rest for a day or two.
- From the vinyl fabric, cut one purse back, one purse front, one strap, two strap holders, one flap and one 10"x13" rectangle. Transfer the pleat markings on the purse front pattern piece to the corresponding vinyl fabric piece.
- From the cotton fabric, cut two purse backs, one small pocket (on the fold), one large pocket (on the fold) and two 2" squares. Pink the edges of the two squares.
- From the fusible fleece, cut four purse backs, one small pocket (not on the fold) and one large pocket (not on the fold).

- From the heavyweight sew-in interfacing, cut one flap.
- From the heavyweight cut-away stabilizer, cut one 9"x13" rectangle or a piece large enough to fit the embroidery hoop. If the embroidery machine is designed to only handle 4"x4" designs, cut three rectangles of stabilizer to allow for multiple hoopings.

EMBROIDER

- Download the Center Rose design and placement guide from cmemag.com/freebies. Print out the placement guide, and trim away excess paper. Cut around the placement guide, cut $\frac{1}{2}$ " marks along the center cross marks and fold back two of the center corners.
- Using the removable fabric marker, mark the vinyl 9"x13" rectangle center. Designate one long edge as the upper edge.



- Using the matching permanent marker, mark the vinyl rectangle vertical and horizontal center on the fabric wrong side.
- Tape the Center Rose design in the fabric center, using the marks as guides. Place the tulip design left of center, aligning it below the Center Rose uppermost leaf; tape in place. Repeat to place another tulip right of center, mirroring the left side **(A)**.
- Using the removable fabric marker, mark both the left and right flower centers. Carefully peel away the tape.
- Extend the left and right flower center marks to the fabric edges **(B)**.
- Hoop the stabilizer and spray it generously with temporary spray adhesive.
- Using the center marks on the vinyl wrong side, center the vinyl over the hooped stabilizer. Press down on the vinyl fabric, securing it to the stabilizer.
- Load the Center Rose design onto the embroidery machine.
- Using the layout function, center the presser foot over the center marks on the vinyl fabric.
- Embroider the Center Rose design; cut all jump threads.
- Embroider the left tulip and the right tulip designs; cut all jump threads.

CONSTRUCT

All seam allowances are $\frac{1}{2}$ " unless otherwise noted. Use a 3mm stitch length for all vinyl construction steps.

- Using the centering marks on the flap pattern piece, align the pattern piece with the center marks on the embroidered vinyl. Cut out the flap from the embroidered fabric.
- Place the two flaps right sides together. Install the leather needle onto the sewing machine. Stitch along the lower three edges using a 3mm stitch length. Leave the upper flat edge open.
- Clip the corners, but leave the seam allowances whole **(C)**. Turn right side out.
- Separate the invisible magnetic closures. Mark the sides that are attracted to one another using a permanent marker.
- Mark a centered 2" line roughly $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from the interfacing flap lower edge.
- Place one 2" fabric square on the line, and using $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances, stitch around three sides. Slide the invisible magnetic snap into the pocket, with the marked side up.
- Stitch the fourth side of the pocket closed, securing the magnetic snap in place.
- Align the flap upper edge with the interfacing upper edge and trace

A



B



C



around the flap **(D)**. Cut along the line, trimming away the excess interfacing.

- Place the interfacing inside the flap, making sure the side with the snap pocket touches the non-embroidered side of the flap. Trim away any excess interfacing along the upper edge.
- On the strap holder wrong sides, draw a centerline along the length.
- Fold the strap holder long edges into the center mark and clip in place.
- Stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from each folded edge of the strap holders. Also stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from both sides of the strap holder's center.
- Fold the strap holders in half, catching the D-rings in the loop; clip in place.
- Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the raw edges to close the loop.
- Fold the bag front pleats, using the markings for guidance. Clip the fabric together at the pleats.
- Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the pleat fold on the fabric right side **(E)**. Repeat to stitch the second pleat.
- Turn the bag front to the wrong side, and stitch down the pleats created on the wrong side $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the fold, securing the pleats **(F)**.
- Place the bag front and bag back right sides together. Using a 3mm stitch length, stitch along the two side edges and lower edge.
- Finger-press the seams open.
- Align the side seam with the lower edge seam to create the gusset. Clip in place.
- Mark $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the raw edges. Stitch along the line, creating the gusset **(G)**. Trim the seam allowance, and turn the bag right side out. Repeat for the remaining side.
- Place one strap holder on the bag right side, aligning the bag side seam with the strap holder center. Place the strap holder so that only $\frac{3}{4}$ " of the strap holder overlaps the bag right side and the remaining portion of the strap holder sticks up above the bag upper edge **(H)**. Stitch in place $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the bag upper edge.
- Repeat to stitch the second strap holder to the remaining side. Trim the strap holders to $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the upper edge.
- Using a removable fabric marker, mark the bag back center between the two strap holders. Also mark the center of the non-embroidered flap upper edge. Align the two marks with the non-embroidered side up **(I)**. Clip the flap to the bag. Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, stitch the flap to the bag.
- Trim $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each edge of the fusible fleece bag backs to ensure that the fleece isn't larger than the lining fabric and won't accidentally fuse to the ironing board.
- Following the manufacturer's directions, adhere one layer of fleece to each lining bag back. Repeat to adhere a second layer of fleece to each lining bag back.
- Designate one lining bag back as the front and the other as the back. On the fleece side of the front piece, measure $2\frac{1}{2}$ " from the upper edge and draw a centered $2"$ line.

D



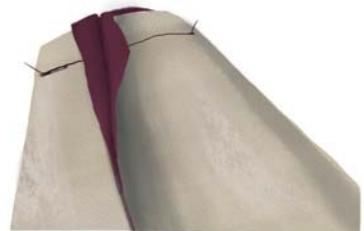
E



F



G



H



I





- Place the remaining 2" square of fabric on the line and stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge on three sides, creating a pocket.
- Slip the magnetic closure into the pocket, with the marked side up. Stitch the fourth side of the pocket closed.
- Fold the two lining pockets in half; press. Place the corresponding fusible fleece pieces along the fold. Trim away any fleece that overlaps the

edges. Following the manufacturer's instructions, fuse the fleece to the pocket wrong side.

- Fold the large pocket right sides together, and stitch using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance around the perimeter. Leave a 4" opening along the lower edge. Repeat to stitch the small pocket, leaving only a 2" opening along the lower edge.
- Trim the corners. Turn the pockets right side out and tuck the raw edge to the wrong side; press.
- Stitch $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the pocket upper edge.
- Center the small pocket on the lining fabric bag back, 3" from the upper edge. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the pocket edge along the sides and lower edge, catching and closing the opening as you go.
- Center the large pocket upper edge over the uppermost stitches encasing the invisible magnetic closure on the lining bag front. Pin the pocket in

place, then stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge along the sides and lower edge.

- Place the lining bag front and the lining bag back right sides together. Stitch along the two sides. When stitching the lower edge, leave a 6" opening for turning.
- Finger-press open the seams.
- Align the side seam with the lower edge seam; pin. Draw a line $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the raw edges. Stitch along the line creating the gusset. Repeat to complete the gusset on the remaining side.
- Trim the gusset seam allowances.
- Place the vinyl bag inside the lining bag right sides together, with the lining bag front (and the magnetic closure) against the vinyl bag front. Align the side seams and clip in place.
- Stitch along the upper edge using a 3mm stitch length. Go slow and back-stitch over the strap holders.
- Using the opening along the lining lower edge, turn the bag right side out. Tuck the lining into the purse. Stitch the opening closed.
- Mark the strap lengthwise center on the vinyl fabric wrong side.
- Fold the two long edges into the center mark. Place under several books or other flat, heavy objects for two or more hours.
- Fold the entire strap in half, enclosing the raw edges inside. Place the folded strap under flat, heavy objects for two or more hours.
- Open the folded fabric, and on the fabric right side, draw a line 3" from the raw widthwise edge.
- Fold the edges into the center and mark $\frac{1}{4}$ " from each folded edge using a removable fabric marker.



- Cut along the marked lines (**J**). This will remove bulk when the strap ends must be turned up to attach to the D-rings. Repeat for the remaining strap end.
- Fold the two edges into the center. Then fold along the center mark again as the fabric has been trained.
- Stitch along one long edge $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the folds, enclosing the strap. Repeat to stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the remaining long edge.
- Designate one side of the strap as the right side; mark.
- Stitch between the two lines of stitching roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ " above the marked line. Repeat to stitch the remaining end.
- Stitch between the two lines of stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the raw edges, enclosing the opening. Repeat to stitch the remaining end.
- Draw a line down the strap center.
- Stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " to either side of the center mark between the widthwise stitching.
- Turn the D-ring so the flat side is up. Fold the strap end over the flat side, making sure the right side is facing out; clip.
- Secure the strap with two lines of stitching. Stitch the first line $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the marked widthwise line. Stitch the second line $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the marked widthwise line. Keep the stitches within the stitched lines along the edge for a professional finish. (See image at upper left on page 30.)
- If any white from the vinyl wrong side shows inside the strap, use a corresponding permanent marker to color it.
- Remove all markings remaining from the removable fabric marker. 

DESIGNS

Tulips and center rose: *CME*, Boho Roses Collection: shopsewitall.com

SOURCES

Riley Blake provided the La Vie Boheme Teal fabric: rileyblakedesigns.com.

Shop Sew it All carries plastic clips and all the items needed to make the Desert Rose Purse: shopsewitall.com.

PLEASING PLEATHER

Whether you call it vinyl, naugahyde, faux leather or pleather, this sturdy fabric is tricky to sew. Use the following tips for stitching success.

- Use a rotary cutting system, preferably with a new blade, to cut out the pattern pieces. The sharp blade will cut pieces smoothly and leave straight, even edges.
- Use pattern weights instead of pins to hold pieces in place.
- Use fabric clips. To avoid leaving any trace, always clip within the seam allowances.
- To crease the fabric, fold it as needed, then place the fabric under books or other heavy

objects. Allow the fabric to rest under the objects for at least an hour or two.

- Use removable fabric markers, but test them first to ensure that the marks will wipe away. Also, be careful not to press too hard when marking; pen-like marking tools can leave permanent scratches. If working with exceptionally dark fabric, use a silver permanent marker, only marking within the seam allowances.
- Attach a walking foot to move the fabric along while sewing. Also consider using a PTFE foot or placing a small piece of satin-finish tape to the underside of the presser foot.

- Don't use an iron. Instead, finger-press seams or lay the fabric out on a flat surface and allow it to rest to ease creases.
- Store these fabrics rolled, ideally on tubes.
- Select medium- or heavy-weight cut-away stabilizer for vinyl fabrics.
- Use open, airy and medium-density designs. Avoid designs with multiple layers of stitches as this can warp the fabric during stitchout.
- Slow down while stitching. Every stitch creates a permanent puncture in the fabric.



Nouveau *Oval* Pendant

BY KATRINA WALKER

Stitch up some instant romance with a vintage-inspired embroidered necklace.



**Download the free
Nouveau Oval Pendant
embroidery design** from
cmemag.com/freebies until Feb. 29,
2016. Find the design after the
expiration date at shopsewitall.com.



MATERIALS

- Size 90/14 topstitching needle
- Oval Pendant embroidery design (See "Designs.")
- Small embroidery hoop
- Water-soluble stabilizer
- Thread: embroidery & bobbin
- Four 6mm jump rings (See "Sources.")
- 18" chain (See "Sources.")
- Clasp set (See "Sources.")
- Pliers
- Beading needle, Size 10, or any needle that fits beads
- Beading thread, black
- Fifteen 4mm bicone beads, black (See "Sources.")
- Three 13x6.5mm briolette pendant beads (See "Sources.")

PREPARE

- Download the Nouveau Oval Pendant design from cmemag.com/freebies. Load the design onto the embroidery machine.
- Hoop two layers of water-soluble stabilizer in the smallest possible hoop that will fit the design. Ensure that the stabilizer is taut.
- Cut a third piece of stabilizer to float under the hoop during stitchout.

EMBROIDER

- Thread the machine with the first color, and insert white bobbin thread.
- Stitch out the design until the final border color is reached.
- Change the bobbin thread to match the border color.
- Stitch the border to finish the pendant.

CONSTRUCT

- Trim around the design, being careful not to cut too closely.
- Rinse out the excess stabilizer in warm water. Rinse only enough to clear the open spaces in the design; leave some stabilizer intact for structure.
- Gently blot the excess water from the design with a towel, and reshape the embroidery if needed.
- Lay the embroidery on a flat surface to dry. When dry or nearly dry, lightly press the design using steam and a press cloth to protect the stitching.



For necklaces,
use stabilizer
that's intended for free-
standing lace and similar
embroidery projects.

Ombre Rose

A



B



C



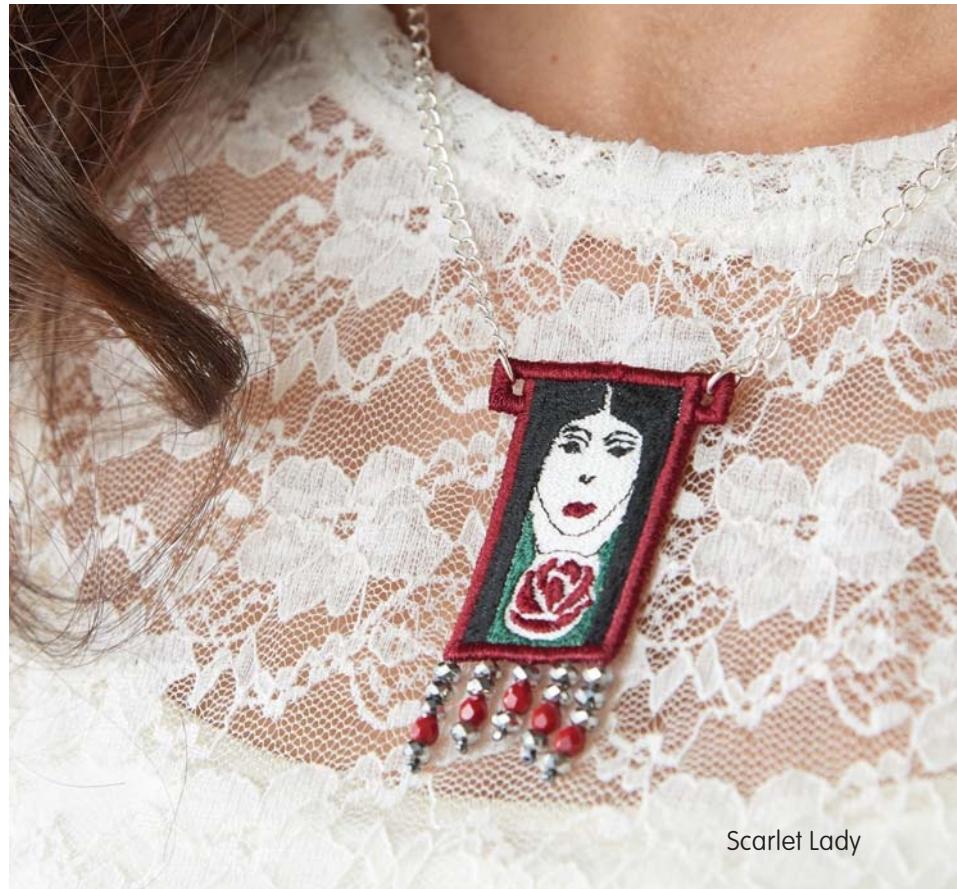
- Using pliers, cut the 18" chain in half.
- To open the jump rings, don't pull the ring ends apart. Instead, use pliers to twist the ring ends in opposite directions to create an opening (**A**). Attach the clasp set to the chain ends using jump rings.
- Twist the ring ends back into place to secure.
- Use the remaining jump rings to attach the chain to the pendant (**B**).
- Thread the beading needle (or a similarly sized needle), and make a small knot in the end.
- Insert the needle into the pendant back, aligning the needle with the

- black stitching line on the left side so that the needle emerges from the satin stitching at the pendant lower edge.
- Place five bicone beads on the needle, sliding them into place next to the pendant.
- Thread a pendant bead, and then thread the needle back up through the bicone beads (**C**).
- Insert the needle back through the satin stitching toward the pendant back. Adjust the tension so the drop fringe hangs attractively without any large thread gaps.
- Take a small stitch into the satin stitching at the pendant back and



Get the Nouveau Oval Pendant necklace kit or

choose from the three other designs shown here. The kits include everything you need to make the beaded necklace plus the embroidery design. Or get the design and instructions alone, without the kit components. Find them all at shopsewitall.com.



Scarlet Lady

knot off, hiding the knot in the stitching if possible. Clip the thread close to the knot.

- Re-knot the thread, and repeat the process at the center and right-side stitch lines, inserting the needle from the wrong side of the pendant. 

DESIGNS

Download the Nouveau Oval Pendant design free from cmemag.com/freebies until Feb. 29, 2016. The design will be available for purchase at shopsewitall.com after the expiration date. Ombre Rose, Scarlet Lady and Rose Trellis designs: shopsewitall.com

SOURCE

Shop Sew It All carries bead and jewelry component kits for this necklace and all featured designs: shopsewitall.com.

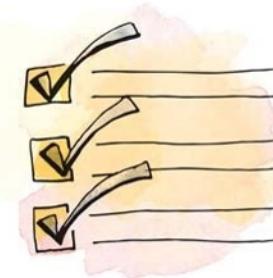
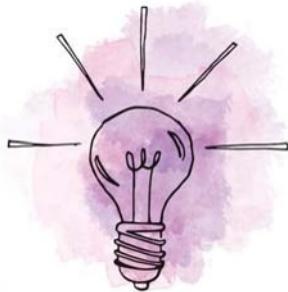


Rose Trellis

15 Pointers for Flawless Stitchouts

BY PAMELA COX

Discover 15 must-know principles for machine embroidery that will elevate your projects to professional-looking pieces.



1. KNOW YOUR EMBROIDERY MACHINE

Sewing and embroidery machines are a sizeable investment and should be purchased from a reputable local dealer that provides support during the learning process. Machine operating manuals are provided with purchase; however, a good dealer will offer hands-on classes to demonstrate machine functions.

Fine-tune your machine's operations by using scrap project fabric to test different stitch lengths and/or tension settings to obtain true balance. Experiment with various thread spool styles and brands to discover your favorite before investing in an entire color collection. As you experiment, document the thread, fabric, stabilizer and any other materials or what did not work in a small notebook for future reference.

2. PROPER PROJECT PREPARATION

Read through any project, technique or material directions before beginning a new project. Gather all of the necessary supplies to ensure there are enough to complete the project.

Always prewash, dry and press fabric. It allows for any fabric shrinkage and removes processing chemicals, which can dull needles and alter the fabric drape and hand.

Many projects require more than one hooping and therefore require more than a single day to complete. Keep all threads, pattern pieces, instructions and fabric in one place, such as a basket or bin. Organization makes it easier to pick up where the project was left off, taking the guesswork out of details, such as which thread color was used.

3. QUALITY MATTERS

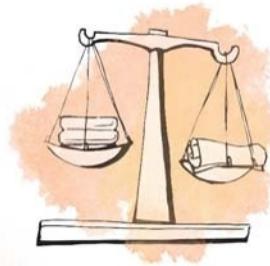
Every project requires investing creative thought and valuable time, which makes the project something deserving of the best supplies available. Superior products offer less frustration during construction and produce a project that will last through generations. Choose quality fabric, stabilizer, thread, needles and embroidery designs. Designs created by professional digitizers result in less jump threads, accurate outlines and proper coverage, including underlays and topstitching.



4. EMBROIDERY DESIGN ANATOMY

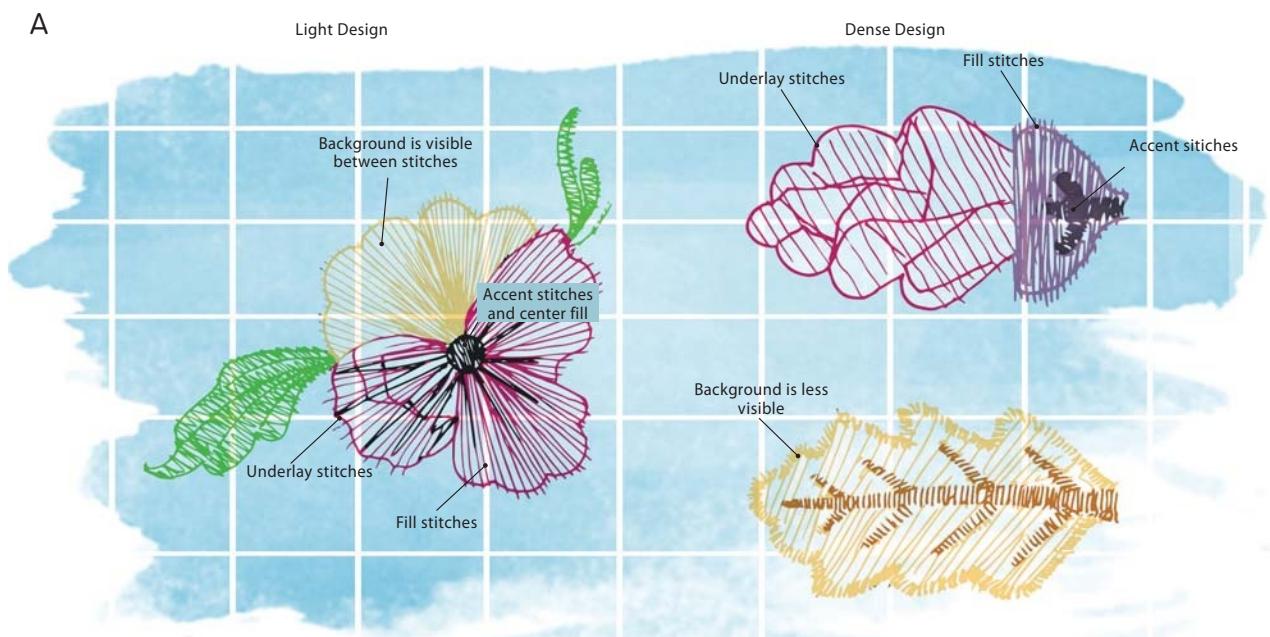
Learn the different design types and always evaluate a design based on the intended application. Underlay stitches are the foundation for any embroidery design and allow the design to maintain its shape. Fill stitches cover the design in either a satin stitch or a set pattern. Accent stitches are often added to define an area.

A digitizer decides how many stitches are needed in any given design area and how close the stitches are placed to each other to achieve the desired effect. Lighter designs have minimal underlay stitches and properly spaced fill stitches. Denser designs contain more underlay stitches, which provide more structure and support for the increased number of fill stitches that are tightly spaced **(A)**. As a general guide, select dense designs for heavyweight fabric and delicate designs for lightweight fabric.



5. PROPER FABRIC, DESIGN & STABILIZER BALANCE

Fabric is a canvas for expressing creativity in the form of embroidered shapes, which are balanced with the proper stabilizer. Typically, a dense design requires a heavier foundation, which can either be a combination of a mediumweight fabric and a heavyweight stabilizer or a heavyweight fabric with a lightweight stabilizer. A stabilizer must provide extra support to create successful embroidery but shouldn't alter the natural drape and hand of the fabric. Purchase a stabilizer sample packet from various companies to experiment with multiple types and weights to see which work best.





6. NEVER HOOP THE FABRIC

Traditionally, fabric is tightly secured within an embroidery hoop. However, this method puts uneven tension on the fibers and distorts the fabric. Once the fabric is embroidered and released from the hoop, the fabric reverts to its natural state. Oftentimes the stabilizer and stitches hold certain points in place, which causes puckering.

For best results, only hoop the stabilizer. To secure the fabric to the stabilizer, use pins, machine basting or temporary spray adhesive. Place pins close to the inside hoop frame away from the stitching area. Most machines have a basting feature that stitches a perimeter around the fabric to secure it to the stabilizer (**B**). Or apply temporary spray adhesive to the stabilizer, and then smooth the fabric over the stabilizer. In all three techniques, the fabric should be wrinkle free and equally taut but not pulled to the point of being stressed in any one direction.



7. DECREASE THE MACHINE SPEED

Although embroidery machines are designed to stitch as quickly as possible, often times decreasing the machine speed provides best results. Speed causes friction, which often contributes to thread breakage. Reduce the machine speed by $\frac{1}{4}$ to prevent thread breakage and extend the life of a machine. For dense designs or dense sections, reduce the speed even further to create even stitching.

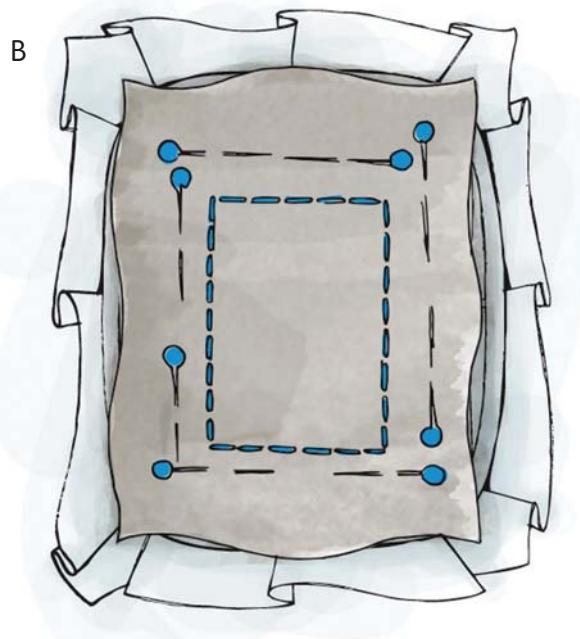
When embroidering with cotton thread, reduce the speed by $\frac{1}{2}$ or more in dense areas for best results.

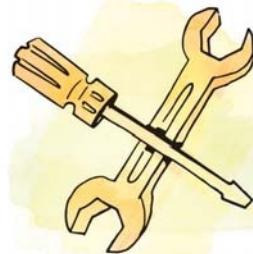
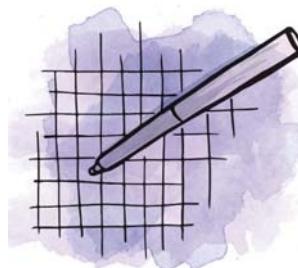


8. MONITOR THE EMBROIDERY MACHINE

Many machines have built-in alarms that alert you when the bobbin requires more thread or the needle thread is broken. However, because the machine operates at such a fast speed, the time between the machine recognizing a problem, sounding the alarm and then stopping the embroidery isn't immediate. There are also other factors that don't trigger an alarm, such as excess fabric folding into the embroidery area.

Preventing a mistake or knowing exactly where to begin stitching after a mistake is much easier if the embroidery process is watched during stitching. If a stitch is thrown, the loop can be immediately anchored into another portion of the design.





9. USE THE SAME COLOR BOBBIN THREAD

Machine stitching is created when an upper thread loops around the bobbin thread, locking the stitch in place. The upper and bobbin thread tension needs to be balanced for accurate stitch formation. During embroidery, the lightweight bobbin thread can be pulled by the heavyweight upper thread onto the fabric right side (**C**).

Although time consuming, changing bobbin thread colors to match the upper thread color is the difference between good embroidery designs and exceptional designs. The design also looks excellent on the fabric right and wrong side, which works well for projects when the wrong side is visible, such as table linens or towels.

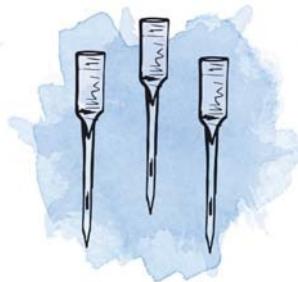
C

Balanced Stitching



Bobbin thread pulled to the top





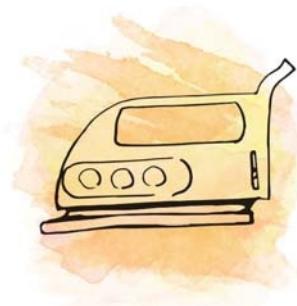
12. REPLACE NEEDLES

Begin every new project with a new needle that corresponds to the fabric type and weight being used. If a single design or full layout is very large or involves dense stitching, change the needle during the project or when changing thread types, especially heavyweight cotton thread. Although friction is the leading cause of thread breakage, using the wrong needle size or a dull needle also causes problems. A dull needle can also snag fabric fibers.



13. TRIM EXCESS STABILIZER

Stabilizer holds the fabric firmly in place during stitching and is necessary for a proper design. However, the stabilizer also anchors certain fabric areas in place. Trimming the stabilizer around design elements releases the fabric from the area and allows the fabric to relax back into its natural position.



14. DON'T FORGET TO PRESS

Set up a high-quality steam iron in your sewing room. Pressing fabric prior to use is an essential step, as well as pressing seams during construction.

Place a thick terry cloth towel on the pressing surface. Position the embroidery wrong side up over the towel, and then press. The towel allows the embroidery to sink into the towel nap, preserving the design depth. Use a pressing cloth for delicate fabric.

Press embroidery after trimming the excess stabilizer from the design area to remove small fabric puckers.

After embroidering a design, press and steam the fabric to ensure accurate placement for any additional designs.



15. CONTINUE THE LEARNING PROCESS

Attend a sewing or quilting convention or an embroidery conference. Or take a class offered by your local dealer even if it's a project or fabric you aren't comfortable with. Observing a technique, learning a brand-new technique or project and adding knowledge to your skill set is worth the investment. In addition, it's an opportunity to meet others who are passionate about machine embroidery, and exchanging ideas is always inspirational. 

SOURCES

Schneider Industries, INC carries the Micro Vacuum Attachment Kit: thetopvac.com.

Shop Sew It All carries a variety of stabilizers: shopsewitall.com.



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Anya Skirt



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Wendy Weekender Tote



Peggy Party Runner



Bonnie's Flouncy Skirt



Shellie Clutch





Boho Bands

BY MELISSA MORA

Stitch a set of breezy headbands with a freestanding lace feather embroidery design. Change the thread and number of designs to create three different looks.

Tip

FSL embroidery is one of the easiest projects to hoop, because precision isn't necessary when the "fabric" is going to be dissolved.

MATERIALS

Supplies listed are enough to create three headbands.

- Water-soluble stabilizer (See "Sources.")
- Feather lace embroidery design in three sizes (See "Design.")
- Threads: embroidery & all-purpose (optional)
- Velvet ribbon, ruched elastic or foldover elastic
- Hand sewing needle
- Decorative buttons
- Seam sealant

PREPARE

- To make freestanding lace, first read the design details. The feather design used in these headbands was digitized specifically for cotton thread. Most FSL designs don't have this specification, however, and can be stitched out in whatever thread you choose.
- Load the design onto the embroidery machine.
- Hoop a piece of water-soluble stabilizer. Make sure the stabilizer is taut, but not so taut that it begins to tear.

EMBROIDER

- Load the bobbin. Since both sides of FSL embroidery might be viewed, wind the bobbin and thread the needle with the same thread.
- Attach the hoop, and then stitch out the design.
- Trim away as much of the stabilizer as possible. It's not necessary to cut close to the design edges.

- Using a bowl of water, soak and gently swish the designs to remove the stabilizer.
- Rinse again in clean water to remove any remaining stabilizer, which can leave designs overly stiff.
- Lay the designs flat on a towel and air dry. Flatten the designs as much as possible to avoid curling.

LARGE FEATHER HEADBAND

- Embroider a large feather design.
- Cut approximately 32" of velvet ribbon. With a hand sewing needle and coordinating thread, stitch the large feather to the ribbon.





MEDIUM FEATHER HEADBAND

- Embroider three medium feather designs.
- Cut approximately 21" of ruched elastic. Overlap the elastic ends $\frac{1}{2}$ "; stitch.
- Cut off the quills of each feather, and apply a dot of seam sealant to each cut end.
- Hand stitch the three feathers together, overlapping the ends.
- Stitch the feathers to the ruched elastic, covering the overlap.
- Stitch a decorative button in the feather ends and through the elastic.



SMALL FEATHER HEADBAND

- Embroider three small feather designs in two thread colors, creating six feathers total.
- Cut the feathers on the design lines so that they measure approximately 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long. Apply seam sealant to the cut ends.
- Hand stitch three feathers of one color together at the cut ends, fanning them all evenly.
- Repeat to sew the three feathers of the second color.
- Layer and fan the feathers to create a six-petal flower shape.
- Cut approximately a 16" length of foldover elastic. Place the elastic

around the wearer's head to ensure the proper length before cutting. Overlap the ends of the elastic $\frac{1}{2}$ "; stitch.

- Hand stitch the feathers to the elastic, covering the overlap.
- Hand stitch the decorative button to the center of the headband and through the elastic. 

DESIGN

Peacock Feather (Lace) UT7882, Urban Threads; urbanthreads.com

SOURCE

Shop Sew it All carries water-soluble stabilizer: shopsewitall.com.



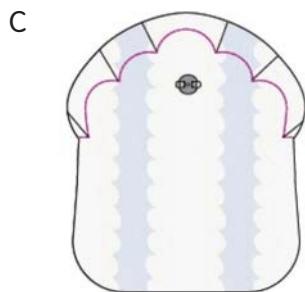
Shellie Clutch

BY CARLA CRIM & JENNIFER PAGANELLI
OF SIS BOOM PATTERN CO.

Find the kit
for this project at
shopsewitall.com,
including all the fabric
and notions you need.
Plus, find the
Shellie Clutch video
tutorial, too!

Stitch a simple clutch with a cute
scallop flap and embellish it with
freestanding lace for a dainty
Valentine's Day accessory.





Download the Shellie Clutch pattern at cmemag.com/freebies until Feb. 29, 2016. The pattern will be available at shopsewitall.com after the expiration date.

MATERIALS

- $\frac{1}{2}$ yard or fat quarter each of 2 coordinating print cotton fabrics (outer & lining)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ yard of 45"-wide heavy-weight fusible interfacing
- Thread: matching or contrasting all-purpose & matching polyester embroidery
- Magnetic snap
- Removable fabric marker
- Medium- to heavyweight water-soluble stabilizer (See "Sources.")
- Hand sewing needle
- Freestanding lace embroidery design (approximately 2.68"x3.9"; the Shellie Clutch kit does not include the design file)

PREPARE

- Download the Shellie Clutch pattern at cmemag.com/freebies; print, and then cut out.
- From the outer and lining fabric, cut one back and one front each.
- From the interfacing, cut two backs and two fronts.
- Transfer all marks to the pattern pieces, according to the pattern. Mark the snap placement and scalloped flap edge onto the nonfusible side of one back interfacing piece. Mark the snap placement onto the nonfusible side of one front interfacing piece.
- Place the back lining on a flat work surface with the wrong side facing up. Fuse the marked interfacing back to the lining piece, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Repeat to fuse the unmarked front interfacing piece to the lining front;

the marked front interfacing piece to the outer front; and the remaining unmarked interfacing back to the outer back piece.

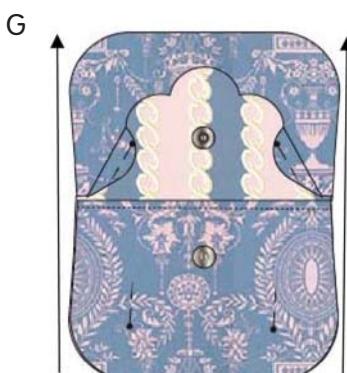
- Separate the magnetic snap hardware. Place the male snap on the marked interfacing fused to the back lining, with the snap center opening aligned with the marked dot. Using a removable fabric marker, mark the snap placement lines by tracing the open areas flanking the snap center.
- Use a seam ripper to carefully cut along the marked lines through all layers.
- Insert the protruding snap prongs through the cut slits from the fabric right side. Slip the snap backing over the prongs from the fabric wrong side, and then fold the prongs toward the fabric to secure. Repeat to attach the female snap to the outer front piece (A).

CONSTRUCT

- With right sides together, pin the lining and outer back pieces along the upper edge and through the body center. Set the machine for a 2.5mm stitch length, and then carefully stitch over the scallop line, lifting the presser foot and pivoting as needed to negotiate the scallops (B).
- Clip the upper-edge allowance from the upper edge to the each scallop corner up to, but not through, the scallop stitching line (C). Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ " (D). Turn the back right side out, and push out the corners using a point turner; press.
- Align the outer and lining fronts with right sides together. Stitch the upper straight edge using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance and standard stitch length. Turn the front right side out;

press. Topstitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the upper edge (E). Place two pins through all layers within the body center to secure it for the next step.

- Place the back on a flat work surface with the lining side facing up. Place the front over the back with the outer fabric facing up, aligning the lower edges. Fold the outermost scallops toward the lining to keep them out of the way of the stitching (F).
- Fold the back lower fabric under the flap, leaving the pinned fronts in



place (G). Fold the back lower fabric toward the fronts so right sides are facing and the flap is sandwiched between the layers; pin. Stitch $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the front sides, leaving a 4" opening along the lower edge for turning. Backstitch securely at each opening end, and then clip through the seam allowance up to each opening end. Trim the seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ " at the lower-edge curves. Remove the exposed pins, and then carefully reach inside the assembly to remove as many pins as possible. Locate the scalloped flap tip and pull it through the opening (H). Continue turning the clutch right side out.

- Turn the clutch lining side out. Stitch the opening closed, using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Zigzag- or serge-finish the seam allowance (I). Or turn the opening edges toward the wrong side, and then slipstitch or whipstitch the opening closed using a hand sewing needle.
- Turn the clutch right side out; press. Topstitch the scallop flap edge.

EMBROIDER

- Load the chosen freestanding lace design into the embroidery machine. (The featured design is 2.68" x 3.9" and fits perfectly along the lower-edge center scallop.)



- Hoop two layers of water-soluble stabilizer; place the hoop onto the machine.
- Load the machine with the same thread in the needle and bobbin; install a 90/14 embroidery needle.
- Embroider the design, stopping the machine to trim any jump threads as necessary for a clean stitchout.
- Remove the hoop from the machine and the stabilizer from the hoop. Trim the stabilizer close to the lace edge. Rinse and submerge the lace in water to remove the stabilizer; let dry. Check to ensure enough stabilizer is removed; if not, repeat to rinse the design. Some stabilizer should remain to give the design structure.
- Audition the lace placement on the flap front. Once satisfied with the placement, hand stitch the lace in several areas to the front fabric only. (C)

DESIGN

Freestanding lace butterfly: Evenfall Lace Edging, Urban Threads; urbanthreads.com

SOURCES

Baby Lock provided the Destiny sewing and embroidery machine used to embroider the freestanding lace motif: babyllock.com.

Coats & Clark provided the trilobal polyester embroidery thread: coats.com.

Sulky of America provided the Super Solvy water-soluble stabilizer: sulky.com.



Q&A

by Pamela Cox

Dear Pamela,

I'd like to embroider on paper to make Valentines. What's the best paper for embroidery and how do I avoid unwanted perforations? What stabilizer should be used that won't harm the paper when removed?

Signed,
Paper Embroidery



DEAR PAPER EMBROIDERY,

Machine embroidery is perfect for paper, especially around the holidays. Mixing and matching different paper types with various stabilizers, needle sizes, thread types and thread weights is quite fun. Many of the combinations provided here work well, but this isn't an all-inclusive list of what can work with paper embroidery. Envision an outcome and be prepared to experiment to achieve the results that you like. Selecting the paper is less important than choosing the correct design.

Selecting the proper design is the key element in successfully embroidering on paper. Fabric is forgiving, allowing fibers to return to their natural position after a needle hole is made outside the design perimeter. However, once a hole is made in paper, it becomes permanent. Choose a design that's specifically digitized for a greeting card, paper or leather by a professional digitizer. These designs only have stitches that are part of the design and won't create extra needle perforations outside of the design. Paper designs employ a stipple system, which only have a basic running topstitch featured in a specific computerized pattern.



PAPER SELECTION

Believe it or not, almost any paper can be used for machine embroidery, though some are more difficult to work with than others. Similar to fabric, heavyweight paper requires a larger size needle with an equivalent stabilizer. Lightweight paper requires a smaller needle and lighter stabilizer. Select a new small needle for lightweight threads, such as 40-wt. rayon or 60-wt. polyester. Heavyweight threads, such as cotton, require a large topstitching needle.

Most paper can be used to produce successful embroidery. Selecting the correct paper depends on the desired look, ease of availability and price point.

- **Card Stock:** Found at most local craft supply stores, card stock is available in a wide selection of colors, patterns, weights and textures.

- **Embroidery Paper:** This paper is specifically manufactured for machine embroidery, it's waterproof and doesn't tear. It's extremely easy to embroider on and has a synthetic hand. Find embroidery paper online in a wide selection of colors and patterns.

- **Mulberry Paper:** Found at higher-end local paper stores or online, this handmade paper incorporates long plant fibers and is available in a wide selection of colors, textures and weights.



adhesive stabilizer and firmly press the paper into place. Only use this method if the design wrong side will not be seen. Although many products claim to be removable, this is only true in open areas on heavyweight paper, and it becomes difficult to remove around the stitching.

• **Handmade Paper:** This paper has a technical advantage over manufactured paper because it's made from longer plant fibers that mimic fabric properties, creating a more aesthetically pleasing result. It's available in a wide variety of natural colors and effects, such as sun-bleached patterns. Most handmade papers have a luxurious hand and create a feather-edge when torn.

STABILIZER SELECTION

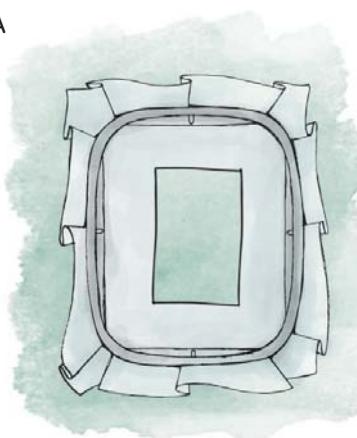
Select the stabilizer and technique based on the project type and what works best for you.

The easiest way to embroider on paper is to hoop a good quality self-

Tear-away stabilizer can also be hooped and then sprayed with temporary adhesive. This stabilizer is generally easier to remove, but it can be difficult to remove around tightly-spaced stitching. Sheer stabilizer is perfect for lightweight papers, such as handmade paper, and used in conjunction with temporary spray adhesive. Removing sheer stabilizer is easier, though keep in mind that not all of the stabilizer needs to be removed if the design won't be seen from the wrong side.

Many designs, when matched with the correct paper, don't need stabilizer. Use self-adhesive stabilizer for this method. Cut a window within the hooped stabilizer to provide an

A





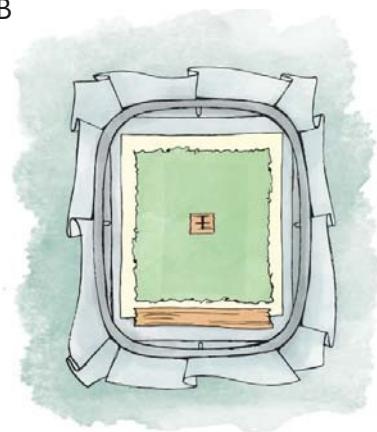
Tip

Utilize paper embroidery for more than just holiday cards. Use handmade paper for an elegant backdrop for lampshades or journals. Mulberry paper makes great bookmarks, and embroidery paper is perfect for a travel mug or coaster insert.

for those that do, use the tape to mark the horizontal and vertical centerlines and place in the appropriate spot **(B)**.

Select a hoop much larger than required by the design to allow the stabilizer surface as much paper to secure to as possible. Use painter's tape in conjunction with a large hoop to secure the paper to the stabilizer. For paper that looks perfect for embroidery but is too lightweight for machine embroidery, adhere a very lightweight fusible interfacing to the paper wrong side.

B



opening where the design will be stitched **(A)**. Carefully remove the embroidered paper from the hooped stabilizer so that it can be used again for another piece of paper.

Painter's tape is another essential supply for embroidering on paper. Use tape to secure paper to the stabilizer and hold the layers together during stitching. Most paper projects don't require accurate design placement because the paper is cut after embroidering, but

MACHINE SPEED

Decrease the machine speed by half for best paper embroidery results. High machine speeds cause friction, which causes thread breakage and shifting during stitching. Always monitor the stitching process, and if you feel comfortable, place your hands on either side of the stitching surface to offer additional security to prevent the paper from shifting during the needle movement. **E**

DESIGNS

Flowers, Hearts and Lettering:
My Fair Lady Designs, Valentine Stipple;
myfairladydesigns.com

SOURCE

The Sewphisticated Stitcher carries QuickStitch embroidery paper;
thesewphisticatedstitcher.com.

JOIN THE Party!



CREATIVE
MACHINE
EMBROIDERY
is celebrating
**15
YEARS!**

To commemorate this occasion, we're hosting a mystery Sew-Along, complete with free designs to keep you inspired all year long.

And, if you register for our **Creative Machine Embroidery 15 Years Sweepstakes**, you'll be eligible to win a prize package of sewing and embroidery products valued at \$15,000!

win
**\$15,000
in prizes
to outfit your
sewing room!**

- On Dec. 1, 2015, we'll post the first Sew-Along installment on the *Creative Machine Embroidery* blog at cmemag.com/blogs/cme. There you'll find the link to register for the sweepstakes, as well as the materials list for the mystery project.
- On Jan. 1, 2016, we'll post the first set of instructions for the project on the blog. You'll also receive the first of six free design downloads that coordinate with the project.

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NO PURCHASE OR SUBSCRIPTION NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN.

A PURCHASE OR SUBSCRIPTION WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.
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3. RANDOM DRAWING/PRIZE/ODDS OF WINNING: On or about June 6, 2016, representatives of the Sponsor will conduct a random drawing to award one (1) Grand Prize: a sewing and embroidery prize package valued at \$15,000.

4. Odds of winning will be determined by the number of eligible entries received. Winner will be notified by email, phone, postal mail and/or express mail at Sponsor's sole discretion. Residents of Canada, in order to win, must first correctly answer a mathematical skill-testing question administered by mail or e-mail at Sponsor's sole discretion. If a potential winner fails to respond within 10 days of Sponsor's notification attempt, the prize will be forfeited and an alternate winner will be selected at random from the remaining eligible entries. Winner will be required to execute an affidavit of eligibility (or in Canada a Declaration of Compliance), release of liability and (where legal) publicity release, which must be returned within time period specified in notification letter or an alternate winner may be selected. Return of prize notification as undeliverable will result in disqualification and an alternate winner will be selected. No prize transfer or cash redemption. No prize substitution, in whole or in part, except by Sponsor due to prize unavailability or any other reason as solely determined by Sponsor in which case a prize of comparable or greater value will be awarded.

5. GENERAL: All federal, provincial, state and local taxes on prize and all expenses related to acceptance and use of prize, not otherwise specified, are the sole responsibility of winner. Winners of prizes valued at US\$600 or more will be issued an IRS 1099 Form for the value of the prize. In the event of a Canadian winner, Sponsor will deduct any applicable withholding taxes imposed by the U.S. and applicable state governments from value of prize award and the value of the prize to be awarded will be adjusted accordingly. By participating, entrants agree [a] to these rules and decisions of Sponsor and judges, which shall be final in all respects relating to this Sweepstakes; and [b] to release, discharge and hold harmless Sweepstakes Entities from any and all injuries, liability, losses and damages of any kind resulting from their participating in the Sweepstakes or their acceptance, use or misuse of a prize including, without limitation, personal injury, death and property damage; and if a winner, [c] to permit Sweepstakes Entities to use his or her name, photograph, likeness, statements, biographical information, voice, voice likeness and city and state address for advertising, publicity and promotional purposes in all media, including but not limited to on air and online, in perpetuity, without compensation (unless prohibited

PRIZE PACKAGE INCLUDES:

• In the months that follow, you'll receive a new set of instructions and a new embroidery design. As the year progresses, the project will take shape and you'll be on your way to finishing a beautiful item with expert instruction guiding the way.

• The Sew-Along concludes on June 1, when the finished project is revealed and the sweepstakes winner is chosen at random. The winner will be featured in the Nov/Dec 2016 issue of *Creative Machine Embroidery*.

• You'll have a chance to register for the sweepstakes with each Mystery Sew-Along blog post and *CME* eNewsletter from January to June. You don't have to participate in the Sew-Along to be eligible for the prize, though you'll miss out on all the fun!

Celebrate with us, get stitching and WIN!

plus

Receive
6 FREE designs
by participating
in our Mystery
Sew-Along!



Alliance, Single-needle free-arm embroidery machine, MSRP \$6,995 and Embroidery Machine Stand with adjustable height feature: MSRP \$1,000; babyllock.com

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Embroidery & Digitizing Software, Creative Drawings 6 Full Package: MSRP \$799; creative-drawings.com

Creative DRAWings



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Crane Lamp with Clamp and 13W Craft Space Organizer: MSRP \$189; ottlite.com

OttLite



Stabilizer & embroidery thread bundle: MSRP \$500; sulky.com

sulky



Lunch Box Quilts.

An assortment of embroidery designs and thread kits, MSRP \$500; lunchboxquilts.com



Reliable Corporation: Senza 200DS Dual Ironing System: MSRP \$299 and 9000C LED Task Light: MSRP \$79; reliablecorporation.com



Arrow sewing chair: MSRP \$220.99

by law) and agree to execute specific consent to such use upon request. Sweepstakes Entities are not responsible for and shall not be liable for: [a] electronic, hardware or software program, network, Internet, computer or other technical malfunctions, failures, or difficulties of any kind, including without limitation, server malfunction or by any human error which may occur in the collection, processing and transmission of data; [b] lost, late, misdirected, illegible or incomplete entries or postage-due mail; [c] any type of graphical or other error in the advertising or printing of the Sweepstakes or in the administration of the Sweepstakes; or [d] any condition that may cause the administration, security or proper play of the Sweepstakes to be disrupted or corrupted; and in such event Sponsor reserves the right in its sole discretion to cancel or suspend the Sweepstakes or any portion thereof and to award the prize via a random drawing from among all eligible entries legitimately received prior to cancellation. Entry information becomes property of Sponsor.

CAUTION: ANY ATTEMPT BY AN ENTRANT TO DELIBERATELY DAMAGE ANY WEBSITE OR UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THE PROMOTION MAY BE A VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS AND SHOULD SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, SPONSOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES FROM ANY SUCH PERSON TO THE FULL-EST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW. Internet entry must be made by the entrant only at the authorized website address. Entries may not be made by any other individual or any entity, and/or originate at any other Internet website or email address, including but not limited to commercial sweepstakes subscription notification and/or entering service sites. Any winner who enters by any of the methods described above will be disqualified and an alternate winner selected. In the event of a dispute regarding the identity of the person submitting an online entry, the entry will be deemed to be submitted by the person in whose name the email account is registered at the time of entry. Potential winner may be required to provide evidence that winner is the authorized account holder of the email address associated with the winning entry. Use of any device to automate entry is prohibited. Judge's decisions are final and binding.

6. DISPUTE RESOLUTION/CHOICE OF LAW: Except where prohibited, by participating each entrant agrees that all issues and questions concerning these official rules

shall be governed by Ohio law without giving effect to any principles of conflicts of law of any jurisdiction. Entrant agrees that any action at law or in equity arising out of or relating to this Sweepstakes shall be filed only in the state or federal courts located in Hamilton County in the state of Ohio, United States, and entrant hereby consents and submits to the personal jurisdiction of such courts for the purposes of litigating any such action. Except where prohibited, by participating in this Sweepstakes, entrant agrees that: [a] any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Sweepstakes shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action; and [b] any and all claims, judgments and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with participating in this Sweepstakes but in no event attorneys' fees; and [c] under no circumstances will any entrant be permitted to obtain awards for and hereby waives all rights to claim punitive, incidental and consequential damages and any other damages, other than for actual out-of-pocket expenses, and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased.

7. USE OF ENTRANT INFORMATION: As permitted by law and in accordance with Sponsor's Privacy Policy, each entrant agrees that the Sponsor may share his/her entry information (including name, address, email address, etc.) with Sponsor's promotional partners and other parties and grant Sponsor, its promotional partners and other third parties with whom Sponsor chooses to share your information, permission to contact you about upcoming promotions, special offers or for other reasons via electronic and ordinary mail. If you would prefer not to hear from us or prefer us not to share information about you, please remember to check the opt out box when entering the Sweepstakes or opt out in accordance with Sponsor's online privacy policy, available for viewing at <http://www.fwmedia.com/privacy>.

8. WINNER LIST: To receive winner's name, mail a self-addressed, stamped envelope to be received by June 30, 2016, to: "CME 15 YEAR SWEEPSTAKES" Winner, 741 Corporate Circle, Suite A, Golden, CO 80401. (Residents of Canada may omit return postage.) List will be available after June 30, 2016.

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design it

This month's free-spirited floral embroidery collection is full of sweetness. Download the free Boho Center Rose embroidery design and embellish table linens, garments, purses and more. Find the entire collection at shopsewitall.com where you can also find the Desert Rose Purse kit that includes pleather, purse findings and the embroidery collection.



quilt it

Stitch a quilt designed by Tula Pink for yourself or someone you love. The Tokari Bunai Quilt features a basket-weave pattern made of simple blocks all

set on point. Created by Carl Hentsch for Tula Pink, this quilt is exclusively in our stores. Check out more quilt patterns from Tula Pink at shopsewitall.com.

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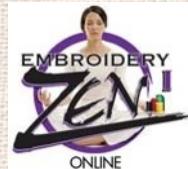
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From best-selling author Helen Phillips comes a beautiful collection of over 25 hand-made patchwork projects combining sewing, appliquéd and embroidery. Create adorable gifts that are perfect to give any time of year, with easy-to-follow instructions. Find it now on interweavestore.com.



watch it

Take a stress-free journey to machine embroidery success with Embroidery Zen from Sulky. In Embroidery Zen 1, learn at your own pace by combining hands-on embroidery with step-by-step video classes. Each class is downloadable and yours to keep forever. If you're already a pro at machine embroidery, the Zen series is great for advanced sewists, too. bit.ly/zenembroidery



Embroidery CREATIVE MACHINE



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**THE GOOD
DINOSAUR**

from **Embroidery** CREATIVE MACHINE

THE GOOD DINOSAUR

**KIT + DESIGN
COLLECTION!**

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Perfect to gift a boy or girl this holiday season, the quilt is a generous twin size (72"x90") and features an adorable fabric panel as the center block. The construction is simple and the suggested quilting is done entirely in the hoop for the ultimate in ease. If you don't have an embroidery machine, choose the quilting method of your choice!



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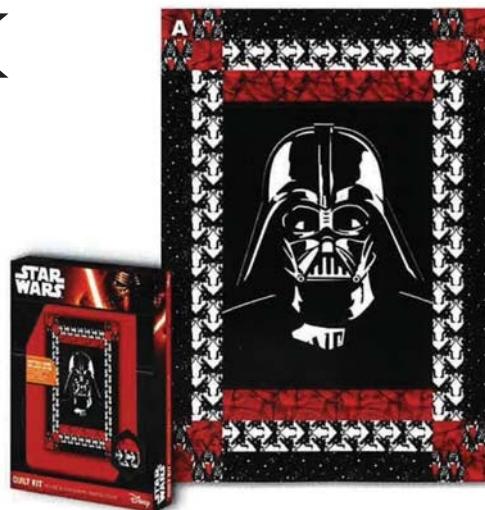
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